

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 016673

63

ORIGIN AEC-11

INFO OCT-01 ARA-16 ISO-00 L-03 SCI-06 EUR-25 NSF-04 SS-20

NSC-10 SCEM-02 INT-08 HEW-08 HUD-02 DODE-00 CEQ-02

EB-11 COME-00 EPA-04 CIAE-00 PM-07 INR-10 NEA-11

NSAE-00 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03 USIA-15 TRSE-00

SAJ-01 DOTE-00 /186 R

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R 251706Z JAN 74

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY MEXICO

UNCLAS STATE 016673

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: TECH

SUBJ: INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION ON GEOTHERMAL ENERGY

REF:MEXICO 0145

1. RE PARA 4 REFTTEL, PLEASED TO LEARN OF EMBASSY'S INFORMAL INITIATIVES AND WOULD LIKE TO PURSUE WITH GOM COOPERATIVE INFORMATION EXCHANGE ARRANGEMENT IN GEOTHERMAL ENERGY RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT.

2. EMBASSY MIGHT RECALL THAT PENDING U.S.-MEXICAN GOVERNMENT-TO-GOVERNMENT AGREEMENT FOR FOLLOW-ON STUDIES OF DUAL PURPOSE NUCLEAR ELECTRIC POWER AND WATER DESALTING PLANTS CON-UNCLASSIFIED

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PAGE 02 STATE 016673

TEMPLATES, IN PARAGRAPH 2A, THAT THE STUDY GROUP SHALL ESTABLISH

A PROGRAM FOR EXCHANGE OF INFORMATION AND PERSONNEL FROM RELATED TECHNICAL PROGRAMS IN EACH COUNTRY INVOLVING DEVELOPMENTS IN NUCLEAR POWER PLANTS, WATER DESALTING PLANTS AND GEOTHERMAL APPLICATIONS.

3. WE BELIEVE THAT THIS PENDING AGREEMENT PROVIDES VEHICLE FOR EXPANDED GEOTHERMAL COOPERATIVE ACTIVITIES IF THERE ARE PROSPECTS THAT IT WILL BE APPROVED BY THE GOM IN THE NEAR FUTURE. IF THE PENDING AGREEMENT WERE APPROVED IT WOULD BE UNNECESSARY TO PROPOSE NEW AGREEMENT FOR GOVERNMENT-TO-GOVERNMENT GEOTHERMAL COOPERATION.

4. ON THE OTHER HAND, WE WOULD NOT WISH PROPOSED GEOTHERMAL COOPERATIVE ARRANGEMENT TO BE DELAYED IF THE PENDING AGREEMENT IS TO LIE BEFORE THE GOM INDEFINITELY.

5. ACCORDINGLY, WE PREFER THAT USG NOT PROPOSE SEPARATE, NEW GEOTHERMAL AGREEMENT BUT RATHER TRY TO PERSUADE GOM TO APPROVE PENDING DESALTING-GEOTHERMAL AGREEMENT. IF, HOWEVER, EMBASSY BELIEVES THAT DESALTING-GEOTHERMAL AGREEMENT WILL NOT BE APPROVED IN THE NEAR FUTURE WE WOULD THEN LIKE TO PROPOSE SEPARATE EXPANDED GEOTHERMAL AGREEMENT ON AN AGENCY-TO-AGENCY (OR AGENCIES TO AGENCIES) BASIS. PLEASE ADVISE.

6. IN THE MEANTIME, USAEC, IN CONSULTATION WITH OTHER INTERESTED GOVERNMENT AGENCIES, PLANS TO DRAFT PROPOSAL FOR EXPANDED COOPERATIVE GEOTHERMAL PROGRAM FOR PRESENTATION TO GOM OFFICIALS WHICH COULD BE IMPLEMENTED UNDER PENDING AGREEMENT OR UNDER AN AGENCY-TO-AGENCY AGREEMENT, DEPENDING UPON EMBASSY'S VIEWS REQUESTED IN PARA 5 ABOVE. KISSINGER

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: GEOTHERMAL ENERGY, SCIENTIFIC COOPERATION, AGREEMENTS, THERMAL POWER PLANTS, DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS, NUCLEAR POWER PLANTS, DESALINATION
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 25 JAN 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974STATE016673
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: USAEC:DIP:ATDALTON
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: n/a
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19740115/aaaaanlo.tel
Line Count: 91
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ORIGIN AEC
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: EXICO 0145
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: garlanwa
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 22 NOV 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <18 OCT 2002 by rowelle0>; RELEASED <22 NOV 2002 by garlanwa>; APPROVED <22-Nov-2002 by garlanwa>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION ON GEOTHERMAL ENERGY
TAGS: TECH, SENV, MX, US, XX
To: MEXICO
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005